



Revised January 2, 2019

The 116th Congress

Issues impacting agriculture



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INTRODUCTION

The 2018 midterm elections are behind us and the U.S. electorate again chose a divided federal government. Majority control of the U.S. House of Representatives will switch to the Democratic party, 235 Democrats and 199 Republicans. Only one seat, North Carolina's ninth congressional district remains undetermined due to allegations of voter fraud. That's a net pick up of 37 seats for Democrats, near the average (41 seats) of the historical midterm election performances of six past Presidents whose approval rating in the months leading up to their first mid-term election ranged from 27 to 49 percent. President Trump's approval rating on November 7 was 43.5%. The U.S. Senate will remain under Republican party control, with Republicans picking two up additional seats, 53 Republicans and 47 Democrats.

One hundred new House members will be seated for the 116th Congress. Sixty-three of those are Democrats. Leaders of the Democratic party in the 116th Congress include:

Democrat party Leaders include:

Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), Speaker of the House
Steny Hoyer (D-MD), Majority Leader
Jim Clyburn (D-SC), Majority Whip
Ben Ray Lujan (D-NM), Assistant Majority Leader
Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY), Democratic Caucus Chairman

For House Republicans, minority leadership includes:

Minority Leader, Kevin McCarthy, (R-CA)
Republican Whip, Steve Scalise (R-LA)
Conference Chairwoman, Liz Cheney (R-WY)
National Republican Campaign Committee Chairman, Tom Emmer (R-MN)
Policy Committee Chairman, Gary Palmer (R-AL)
Conference Vice Chairman, Mark Walker (R-NC)
Conference Secretary, Jason Smith (R-MO)

Eight new Senators from Arizona, Florida, Indiana, Missouri, Nevada, North Dakota, Tennessee and Utah will be sworn in to the U.S. Senate.

One of the first orders of business to be taken up by the new Democrat majority is to pass new rules for operations of the U.S. House. Some of the new rules are extraordinary and will provide significant enhancements to the legislative process. Some of those rules include:

1. Every Member Gets a Voice: Adopt a rule creating a "Consensus Calendar." Once a bill reaches 290 co-sponsors, a 25 legislative day clock will begin. If the primary committee of jurisdiction does not report the bill by the end of the 25 legislative days, the legislation will be

placed on the new “Consensus Calendar” where it will remain until the bill is considered. For every in-session week, after February 28th of the First Session and before September 30th of the Second Session, majority leadership will be required to bring at least one bill on the “Consensus Calendar” to the Floor.

2. Bipartisan Amendments: Create a Rules Committee Protocol that specifically adds a preference to amendments that comply with the rules and have at least twenty Members of each party cosponsoring the amendment.

3. Modernize the Discharge Petition: Allow discharge petitions to be considered under a 3-day notice process like privileged resolutions in order to facilitate their use and effectiveness, while still requiring 218 signatures. The current process only allows perfected petitions on certain Mondays and only if the House is in session on those days.

4. Increase Committee Transparency: Require three business days’ notice for committee markups but preserve the entire “good cause” exception.

5. Reform the Motion to Vacate the Chair: Adopt a rule stating that a resolution causing a vacancy in the Office of the Speaker will be privileged if offered by the direction of a major party caucus or conference.

6. Legislative Committee Party Ratios: Commit to a fairer party ratio for committees. Since ratios change throughout the year due to resignations, special elections etc., ratios have never been and should not be set through the standing rules of the House. We are also aware of the Minority’s need to negotiate for seats they need and how setting ratios in the standing rules could inadvertently restrict their needs. However, we agree that to the extent possible party ratios on legislative committees (including Intelligence and Joint and Select Committees but excluding Rules and Ethics) should reflect the party ratio of the entire House.

7. A More Inclusive Amendment Process: Commit to a more fair and inclusive legislative process where more ideas and amendments are debated, and there is less of a reliance on closed rules.

8. Preserve “Majority Markups”: Ensure that most of the Members of a committee can request and schedule a markup of the committee they serve on. Given the bipartisan passage of the 2018 Farm Bill by both legislative chambers, each with historic and extraordinary vote margins, [87-13](#) in the U.S. Senate and [369-47](#) in the U.S. House, USDA will begin implementation of it under the oversight of divided government. Even though the new Farm Bill made only slight changes to some of the major programs contained in the law, USDA officials have said it will require some time to make the necessary adjustments in multiple program areas.

The federal government is amidst a partial shutdown due to a political dispute over border security along the U.S.-Mexico border. The Trump Administration is seeking \$5 billion from the FY 2019 Department of Homeland Security appropriations bill. To date Congress has reached agreement on about \$1.6 billion. Earlier, Congress coupled the Department of Homeland Security appropriations bill with six other annual FY 2019 appropriations bills, including agriculture that remain to be enacted. Without the Department of Agriculture's annual appropriations bill being enacted federal employees responsible for writing rules and guidelines for the new Farm Bill are prohibited from working. Congressional leaders are signaling that the federal government shutdown could last another few weeks.

In addition to the federal government shutdown, USDA Deputy General Counsel Stephen Vaden speaking to the American Agricultural Law Association told members the Farm bill implementation process could be hamstrung by President Trump's Executive Order #13771 that requires departments to rescind two rules for every new rule and sets cost parameters on rules implemented.

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One of the ways we prepare is to review the likely membership of the relevant (of a total 21) standing committees in the U.S. House of Representatives that deal with issues of permanent legislative concerns impacting the agriculture industry. From these standing committees we also review the membership of the respective subcommittees (totaling 104) with jurisdiction over major issues impacting the industry. In the U.S. House the Chairman of the respective Standing Committees set the legislative agenda for the Committee, with some coordination with House Leadership. Given the U.S. House of Representatives is under control of Democrats, the key lawmakers who will serve as chairpersons of these respective committees and subcommittees will likely have a very different approach to legislation and regulatory policy than their Republican counterparts that have controlled the agenda since 2011.

This document gives brief insights to issues that can be achieved in the 116th Congress and key lawmakers in the U.S. House of Representatives that will likely become leaders of the major standing committees when the power shifts to Democratic party control. Those standing committees include, Appropriations, Budget, Energy & Commerce, Judiciary, Natural Resources, Rules and Ways and Means, who's jurisdiction includes policy issues important to U.S. agriculture.

What Policies Can be Enacted during the 116th Congress?

- Budget Deal to increase budget caps & increase debt borrowing authority
- Annual Appropriations
- National Defense Authorization Act
- Immigration Reform
- Infrastructure bill
- Renewable Fuel
- Trade:
 - Ratify U.S. – Mexico – Canada (USMCA) Agreement
 - Other Bilateral Trade deals
 - China

Budget Deal

Table 1

Non-defense Discretionary Spending Caps Under Balanced Budget Act, as Amended

FY 2017 \$519 billion
FY 2018 \$515 to \$579 billion (+ \$62 billion non-defense)
FY 2019 \$529 billion to \$597 billion (+ \$68 billion non-defense)
FY 2020 \$543 billion (-\$54 billion)
FY 2021 \$555 billion

In Table 1 above note the level of non-defense annual discretionary spending in all 12 of the FY 2017 appropriations bills was \$519 billion. Congress struck a budget agreement on February 9, 2018 that busted previously set spending caps and raised total non-defense discretionary spending by \$62 billion in FY 2018, up to \$579 billion and by \$68 billion in FY 2019, up to \$597 billion.

If Congress does not reach a new budget deal in the 116th Congress the non-defense discretionary level of spending is set to drop by **-\$54 billion** in FY 2020 to \$543 billion. At this time there is no information that suggests Congress will allow the non-defense discretionary budget to drop **-\$54 billion**. If Democrats are in charge in the U.S. House they will demand a higher level of spending, likely above the FY 2019 enacted level. But, it will come at a cost imposed by Senate Republicans.

The Bipartisan Budget Act (BBA) of 2018 was signed into law on February 9, 2018 and the debt limit (OR CEILING) was suspended through March 1, 2019. Congress must again vote to suspend the debt ceiling that allows the government to finance existing legal obligations that current and previous Congresses and presidents of both parties have made in the past. Since 1960, Congress has acted 78 separate times to permanently raise, temporarily extend, or revise the definition of the debt limit – 49 times under Republican presidents and 29 times under

Democratic presidents. Congressional leaders in both parties have recognized that this is necessary.

The BBA also created the Budget Bipartisan and Bicameral Committee. The select committee is comprised of 16 members, equally divided between both sides in the House and Senate. This bipartisan, bicameral panel is tasked with identifying and recommending reforms to the budget and appropriations process. This Committee has been meeting since early this year and it is required to report their findings by the end of November 2018. House and Senate rules adopted from the policy recommendations from this Committee could impact all future authorization legislation and appropriations bills.

The current state of the federal budget is important to talk about when considering federal programs like a Farm Bill with a total cost of \$867 billion over the next 10-years. If the Farm Bill is extended into the 116th Congress, there is a possibility that the Farm Bill could lose baseline funding for programs. The opposite is also a consideration. If there is a budget deal and non-defense dollars become available lawmakers could attempt to secure additional funding for the Farm Bill.

Annual Appropriations Bills

Each year Congress must enact 12 discretionary appropriations bills totaling over \$1.2 trillion (FY 2019 = \$647 billion, defense, \$597 billion non-defense) to fund all the varying federal departments and agencies. Both Republicans and Democrats have been attempting to restore the annual budget and appropriations process to regular order. Congress has passed all 12 annual appropriations bills on time (before September 30) in only four fiscal years: 1977, 1989, 1995 and 1997.

Seven (of the total 12) annual appropriations bills for FY 2019 remain to be enacted by Congress and signed by the President. The seven remaining appropriations bills for FY 2019 include:

- Department of Agriculture, & FDA;
- Departments of Commerce & Justice, Science;
- Financial Services & General Government;
- Department of Homeland Security;
- Department of Interior, Environment Protection Agency;
- Department of State; and
- Department of Transportation & Housing & Urban Development.

Without question the new Democrat majority would like to have FY 2019 appropriations bills behind them. Incoming Speaker Nancy Pelosi and her Chairwoman of the Appropriations Committee Nita Lowey (D-NY) want to restore normal order to the appropriations process and pass all twelve annual FY 2020 appropriations bills on time. Each week that the FY 2019 appropriations impasse lingers inhibits their goal for a timely FY 2020 appropriations process.

National Defense Authorization Act

Each year Congress must enact the National Defense Authorization Act. This bill does not fund the military; it authorizes the policies of the military for which funding will be provided by the appropriations committees. It is typically a bipartisan endeavor in Congress and it will likely continue as such with incoming 12-term veteran Democrat Adam Smith (D-WA) chairing the Armed Services Committee in the House and Senator Jim Inhofe (R-OK) in the U.S. Senate. The outlying question is will President Trump sign the measure? Already President Trump and Chairman Smith have publicly made it known their differences on issues like forming a Space Force which Trump supports and Smith vehemently opposes.

Immigration Reform

Multiple legislative initiatives were introduced in the 115th Congress, some bipartisan, aimed at reforming the U.S. immigration system. Some of those include:

- Securing America’s Future Act, H.R. 4760, a conservative-backed bill,
- The DREAM Act, H.R. 3440, (bipartisan) gives broader protection to young undocumented immigrants,
- The USA Act, H.R. 4796, provides conditional permanent resident status for immigrants meeting specified requirements,
- S. 354, RAISE Act, skills-based immigration system that awards points to prospective immigrants, and
- HR 4092, Ag Act, House Judiciary Committee Chairman Bob Goodlatte (R-VA) replaces the H-2A program with guest-worker program—known as H-2C Administered by the USDA, Adaptable, year-round.

With such legislation readily available and parameters for a possible deal already proposed, a bipartisan deal on immigration policy reforms may be achievable during the 116th Congress - but it will require skilled negotiators. Recall early in 2018 the Trump Administration offered a deal to support a pathway to citizenship for 1.8 million “dreamers,” (young, undocumented immigrants impacted by the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program and the failed passage of the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act) in exchange for \$25 billion for improved border security measures, including a border wall along the U.S. – Mexico border. 1.8 million dreamers is twice the number of people that were enrolled in DACA. With the majority in the House, Democrats now have significantly more bargaining power than before, and the Trump Administration may be more willing to overlook the significant angst that such a deal will cause among conservative Republicans.

For some background, congressional Republican struggles with Immigration Reforms were heightened in September 2017 when President Trump announced he would end Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program and called on Congress to provide replacement legislation. The big issue Republicans are struggling with is how to find the right balance

between granting amnesty to young immigrants and protecting the Dreamers from deportation and getting it passed in both the House and Senate.

In addition, during the 115th Congress, then-House Republican leaders decided to proceed to the Farm Bill before bringing an immigration reform package to the floor. House leaders thought they could appease right-wing conservatives in their party with modifications to work requirements for beneficiaries of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and opportunities to offer amendments to the Farm Bill. But this never transpired during negotiations on the Farm Bill and House conservative Republicans may now more clearly see President Trump's deal is the only deal they will get.

Infrastructure Package

Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman Bill Shuster (R-PA) will be retiring at the end of the 115th Congress. In July 2018 Shuster introduced a "discussion draft" on a major infrastructure bill to keep the Members of Congress focused on the need to fix the nation's aging infrastructure. Chairman Shuster's proposal calls for raising the gas tax by 15 cents per gallon and the diesel tax by 20 cents per gallon over the course of three years to bring in additional revenue to the Highway Trust Fund, which the Congressional Budget Office projects will become insolvent by 2020. A total of \$3 billion over five years would be dedicated to a "national infrastructure investments program" and \$3 billion annually for five years would go to the Clean Water State Revolving Funds.

For drinking water, EPA's current Water Infrastructure Finance and innovation Act (WIFIA) program provides \$25 million to leverage \$2 billion in drinking water loans annually. The Shuster discussion draft doubles EPA WIFIA funding to \$50 million for each year 2020-2024. The Shuster proposal would target increased investments in water infrastructure projects of regional and national significance. New loan terms for state, local, and tribal governments would enable them to finance a greater percentage of the costs of eligible projects, from the current 49 percent of approved projects to be financed with WIFIA loans to 80 percent.

Incoming Chairman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, Peter DeFazio (D-OR) did have initial conversations with Bill Shuster about the discussion draft but reportedly could not go along with how the legislation loosened environmental protections and expedited project delivery. DeFazio also told Shuster it was not a good time to bring up an increase in the gas tax.

Chairman DeFazio has already touted developing a major infrastructure bill that will provide \$500 billion for highways and transit. Additional dollars, with amounts not yet specified will be available for airports and water projects. DeFazio has publicly denounced "asset recycling," which he says doomed the previous Republican proposals and called it privatization using methods like tolling to pay for the infrastructure projects. The White House has already signaled to DeFazio it believes there needs to be significant federal investments.

Defazio's goal is to introduce an infrastructure package soon and pass it out of the House within the first six months of 2019.

Incoming Chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, Frank Pallone (D-NJ) is already on board to make improvements to the nation's drinking water systems in any infrastructure package that comes before the U.S. House. He has already introduced legislation that will likely become the vehicle for inclusion into the ultimate infrastructure package in the 116th Congress. Some of the provisions include:

- Reauthorizes the Safe Drinking Water Act State Revolving Fund for the first time in 20 years and provides significant new funding to state and local governments in dire need. The bill nearly doubles the authorized funding –from \$1 billion to \$1.95 billion in 2021— and increases funding for Public Water System Supervision grants to states.
- Ensures funding to communities that need it most by raising the cap on special assistance to disadvantaged communities under the State Revolving Fund and setting a floor for such assistance to guarantee help for those communities.
- Establishes a grant program for replacing leaded drinking water fountains in schools and requiring for the first time a national inventory of lead service lines and the costs to replace them.
- Requires drinking water quality reports to consumers more frequent, comprehensive, and understandable.
- Assists systems with resiliency to extreme weather, and it establishes new requirements to assess and address vulnerabilities to those threats. It also provides \$100 million for grants to extend access to safe drinking water into areas impacted by natural disasters
- Authorizes a WaterSense program to encourage consumer product water efficiency.
- Authorizes "Buy America" requirements for iron and steel products for five years.

Renewable Fuel

The Trump Administration announced on October 9, 2018 that it will soon begin rulemaking to allow the sales of E15 (gasoline blended with 15% ethanol) year-round. It will be sold in markets that make up 70% of all gasoline consumption. It's been 30 years since EPA promulgated regulations on the volatility limits for E10. EPA never envisioned the same volatility limits for a higher blend like E15. The House and Senate Committees on Agriculture and Energy and

Commerce will play a vital role overseeing the Trump Administration's plans for year-round sales of E15 during the 116th Congress.

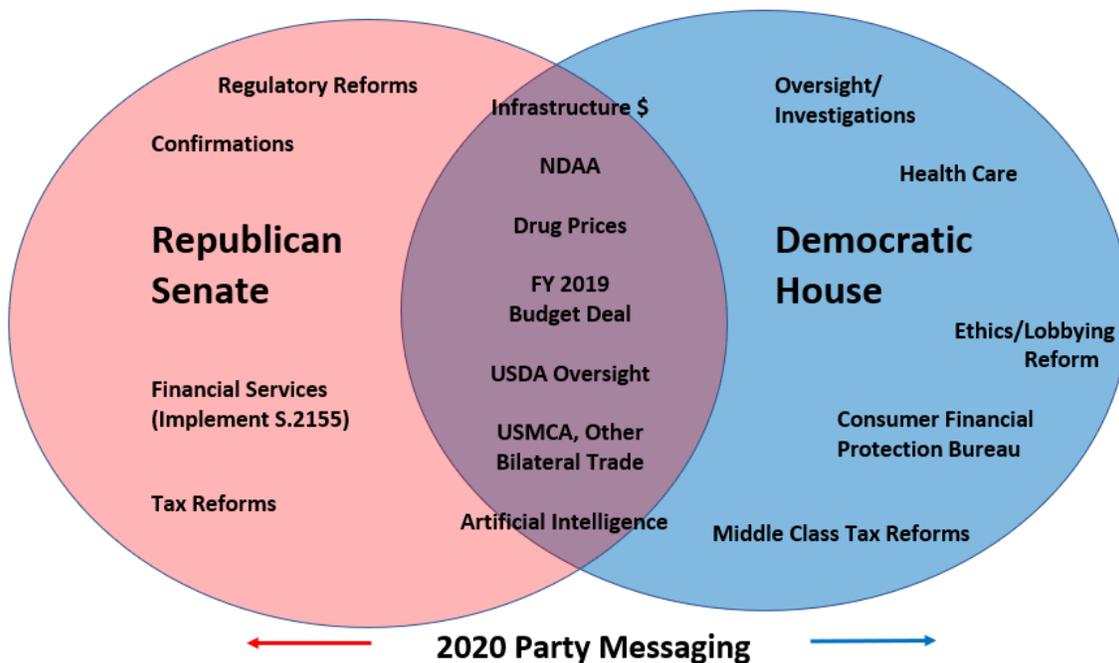
Trade

Since taking office The Trump Administration has touted getting better trade deals. The U.S. has withdrawn from the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP). The Administration touts, "This action ushers in a new era of U.S. trade policy in which the Trump Administration will pursue bilateral free trade opportunities with allies around the world, wherever possible."

On September 30, the U.S., Canada and Mexico have announced a new trade agreement, the US, Mexico, Canada Agreement or USMCA. Final details are being worked out and Majority Leader McConnell has announced the US Senate will not ratify USMCA until sometime in 2019 during the 116th Congress. Passing a new trade pact with divided government will present heightened challenges. Recall the former North American Free Trade Agreement passed the U.S. House in 1993 by a vote of 234-200 after months of intensive lobbying efforts.

Other bilateral trade agreements, especially with pacific rim countries that signed the TPP, are expected.

116th Congress: Issues & Opportunities



Changes in Power on Relevant Congressional Committees

Table 2

COMMITTEE	Subcommittee	Chairperson 116th Congress
AGRICULTURE		Collin Peterson (MN-7)
	Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy, & Credit	David Scott (GA-13)
	Subcommittee on Conservation & Forestry	Ann Kuster (NH-2)
	Nutrition	Marcia Fudge (OH-11)
	Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities	Cheri Bustos (IL-17)
	Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture & Research	Jimmy Panetta (CA-20)
	Subcommittee on Livestock & Foreign Agriculture	Jim Costa (CA-16)
APPROPRIATIONS		Nita Lowey (NY-17)
	Subcommittee on Agriculture, FDA	Sanford Bishop (GA-2)
	Subcommittee on Interior & Environment	Betty McCollum (MN-4)
	Subcommittee on Department of Homeland Security	Lucille Roybal-Allard (CA-)
BUDGET		John Yarmouth (KY-3)
ENERGY & COMMERCE		Frank Pallone, Jr. (NJ-6)
	Subcommittee on Environment	Paul Tonko (NY-20)
JUDICIARY		Jerry Nadler (NY-10)
	Subcommittee on Immigration & Border Security	Zoe Lofgren (CA-19)
NATURAL RESOURCES		Raúl Manuel Grijalva (AZ-3)
RULES		James McGovern (MA-2)
WAYS & MEANS		Richard Neal (MA-1)
	Subcommittee on Trade	Bill Pascrell (NJ-9)

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

The House Committee on Agriculture was established in 1820. In 1880 the subject of forestry was added to its jurisdiction. The Committee maintains broad authority and scope over issues impacting the agriculture industry including but not limited to; Adulteration of seeds, insect pests, general agriculture, agricultural and industrial chemistry, agricultural colleges and

experiment stations, agricultural economics, research, education and extension, agricultural production, marketing and stabilization of prices of agricultural products, and commodities, animal industry and diseases of animals, commodity exchanges, crop insurance and soil conservation, dairy industry, entomology and plant quarantine, farm credit and inspection of livestock, poultry, meat products, and seafood and seafood products, forestry, human nutrition, plant industry, soils, and agricultural engineering, rural electrification, rural & water conservation.

Collin Peterson will again receive the gavel for the Chairmanship of the U.S. House Committee on Agriculture if Democrats gain control of the House after the 2018 midterm elections. Peterson chaired the Committee for four years from January 2007 through 2010. He has been in Congress since 1991 representing Minnesota's 7th congressional district that includes Moorhead, Detroit Lakes, Willmar, Marshall, and Alexandria. Peterson is a founding member of the conservative Blue Dog Democrat Caucus and continues to support fiscal responsibility and pragmatic government policies.

Agriculture **Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy, & Credit**

Each year the Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy, & Credit holds hearings on policies and statutes relating to commodity exchanges, agricultural credit, rural development, energy and rural electrification.

David Scott (GA-13) will become Chairman of the Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy, & Credit. Since 2002 Scott has represented Georgia's 13th congressional district which includes six counties around metro Atlanta: Cobb, Clayton, Douglas, Fayette, Fulton and Henry. He is a graduate of the Wharton School of Finance at the University of Pennsylvania and he earned his MBA degree with honors in 1969. He understands the importance of ensuring that U.S. agriculture sector continues to grow and remains globally competitive, while keeping food prices affordable to consumers.

Agriculture **Subcommittee on Conservation & Forestry**

Each year the Subcommittee on Conservation & Forestry will hold hearings on policies and statutes relating to resource conservation practices and forest management activities in all U.S. forests.

Ann Kuster (NH-2) will likely become Chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Conservation & Forestry. This assumes current Ranking Member Marcia Fudge selects to become Chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Nutrition. Kuster has represented New Hampshire's 2nd congressional district since 2012. The 2nd congressional district includes the cities of Concord, Nashua and Littleton.

Agriculture **Subcommittee on Nutrition**

The Agriculture Subcommittee on Nutrition is responsible for policies of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and domestic commodity distribution and consumer initiatives.

Marcia Fudge (OH-11) has represented Ohio's 11th congressional district since 2013. The 11th congressional district includes portions of the City of Cleveland and winds south to the City of Akron, Ohio. Fudge is currently the highest-ranking Democrat on the Agriculture Subcommittee on Conservation & Forestry, but we believe she may use her seniority to claim the gavel of the Subcommittee on Nutrition given her more-urban congressional district.

Agriculture **Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities**

Each year the Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities holds hearings on policies relating to commodity markets including barley, cotton, cottonseed, corn, grain sorghum, honey, mohair, oats, other oilseeds, peanuts, pulse crops, rice, soybeans, sugar, wheat, and wool. The Subcommittee also has jurisdiction over the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC), a Government-owned and operated entity created to stabilize, support, and protect farm income and prices. CCC also helps maintain balanced and adequate supplies of agricultural commodities and aids in their orderly distribution. Other policies reviewed by the Subcommittee include risk management and the Federal Crop Insurance program and producer data and privacy issues.

Cheri Bustos (IL-17) has represented Illinois 17th congressional district since 2013. The 17th congressional district includes cities such as Moline, Rockford and Peoria. She serves as a Co-Chair of the Democratic Policy and Communications Committee and is also a Senior Whip in the Democratic Caucus. Congresswoman Bustos is next in line in seniority to become the chairwoman of the Agriculture Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities.

Agriculture **Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture & Research**

The Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture & Research holds hearings annually to review policies, statutes, and markets relating to horticulture, including fruits, vegetables, nuts, and ornamentals; bees; and organic agriculture. It also maintains jurisdiction over policies relating to marketing and promotion orders, pest and disease management, bioterrorism, adulteration and quarantine matters, research, education, and extension, and biotechnology.

Jimmy Panetta (CA-20) will be in his second term of Congress during the 116th Congress. He serves the 20th congressional district of California that is known as the "salad bowl of the world" and includes the counties of Monterey and San Benito and portions of Santa Clara County and Santa Cruz County. Panetta wasted no time in his first term of Congress establishing himself as a member who can work across the political aisle and legislate. He serves on the House Agriculture Subcommittees

with jurisdiction over Nutrition programs and biotechnology, horticulture and research. Congressional caucuses that Panetta has joined include: Cannabis, Hispanic Serving Institutions, Organics and the Wine caucus. Congressman Al Lawson, Jr. (D-FL) is ahead of Panetta in seniority on the Subcommittee on Biotech, Horticulture & Research. But, Lawson may take another Subcommittee Chairmanship and that would allow Panetta to become Chairman of the Subcommittee in the 116th Congress.

Subcommittee on Livestock & Foreign Agriculture

The Agriculture Subcommittee on Livestock & Foreign Agriculture annually review policies & statutes impacting livestock markets including beef, poultry, dairy, and seafood (aquaculture) – this includes all products and the inspection, marketing, and promotion of such commodities and products. Policies affecting animal welfare; grazing; foreign agricultural assistance and trade promotion are also under this subcommittee’s jurisdiction.

Jim Costa (CA-16) ranks #3 in seniority of Democrats on the House Agriculture Committee. On the House Natural Resources Committee Costa ranks #4. He served as Ranking member on the Agriculture Subcommittee on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture during the 115th Congress. Costa has represented the 16th congressional district of California since 2005. He is a third-generation family farmer and it is no surprise that water, agriculture and a good U.S. economy are main issues for him. He is the co-Chairman of the fiscally conservative Blue Dog Democratic caucus. His seniority in Congress would allow a couple of opportunities for him to Chair Subcommittees on the Agriculture Committee or the House Natural Resources Committee. We believe Costa stays with Agriculture and becomes Chairman of the Subcommittee on Livestock & Foreign Agriculture. In this role he will play a major part in views supporting agriculture in the current disputes over trade tariffs and any new trade agreements.

APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

According to the House Rules Committee, House Rule X broadly outlines the jurisdiction of each of the standing committees of the House of Representatives. The authority for annual appropriation is derived from Article I, Section 9, of the U.S. Constitution that states, “No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law...”The House Appropriations Committee is responsible for legislation allocating federal funds prior to expenditure from the treasury. Appropriations are generally limited to the levels set by the Budget Resolution drafted by the House Committee on the Budget. The Committee is also responsible for supplemental spending bills, which are sometimes needed in the middle of a fiscal year to compensate for emergency expenses.

Generally, House Rule 10 proscribes the appropriations committee jurisdiction as follows:

- Appropriation of the revenue for the support of the Government.
- Rescissions of appropriations contained in appropriation Acts.

- Transfers of unexpected balances.

Nita Lowey (NY-17) becomes the first woman to Chair the U.S. House Appropriations Committee in its 153-year history. Lowey has served in the U.S. House of Representatives since 1989, now representing NY's 17 district including the cities of Peekskill, Yorktown and White Plains. She is considered liberal on domestic issues. On foreign-policy matters she is a moderate and is included with Members of Congress that support Israel. She also supports a strong annual budget for the Pentagon and supported the Iraq War resolution in 2002.



To introduce legislation for consideration by the U.S. House, Members drop their proposed legislation in this Bill Hopper affixed to the wall on floor of the U.S. House.

Appropriations **Subcommittee on Agriculture, Food & Drug Administration**

Each year the Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Food & Drug Administration determines the level of funding for agencies under its jurisdiction including:

- Department of Agriculture
 - Farm Service Agency
 - Risk Management Agency
 - Foreign Agricultural Service
 - Animal Plant Health Inspection Service
 - Food and Nutrition Services
- Food and Drug Administration
 - Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition
 - Center for Veterinary Medicine
 - Office of Medical Products and Tobacco
 - Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research
 - Center for Devices and Radiological Health
 - Center for Drug Evaluation and Research
- Commodity Futures Trading Commission
- Farm Credit Administration

Sanford Bishop (GA-2) is incoming Chairman of the Subcommittee on Agriculture and Food and Drug Administration. Bishop is from Albany, Georgia and represents the second congressional district. The 2nd congressional district is in southwest, Georgia and includes the towns of Albany, Thomasville and most of Columbus and Macon. Bishop has served in the U.S. House of Representatives since 1993. He is a member of the conservative Blue Dog Democrats and in

the past has supported legislation to extend the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts, eliminate the estate tax and close tax loopholes that send American jobs overseas.

Appropriations **Subcommittee on Interior and Environment**

Each year the Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior and Environment determines the level of funding for agencies under its jurisdiction including:

- Department of Interior
 - US Fish & Wildlife
 - Bureau of Land Management
 - Bureau Indian Affairs
 - U.S. Geological Survey
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
 - Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)
 - Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) Program
 - Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (WIIN) Grants
 - Other Loans and Grants for Small Drinking Water Systems
- U.S. Forest Service
- Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board
- National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (Superfund-related activities)

Betty McCollum (MN-4) is the incoming Chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Interior and Environment. She is from St. Paul, Minnesota and represents the fourth congressional district. The 4th congressional district is directly east of Minneapolis and includes the towns of Roseville, White Bear, Stillwater, Woodbury and Afton. McCollum has served in the U.S. House of Representatives since 2001. In January 2018 McCollum signed articles of impeachment against President Trump. McCollum supports fiscal responsibility, robust international engagement, economic development and a strong national defense.

Appropriations **Subcommittee on Homeland Security**

Each year the Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security determines the level of funding for agencies under its jurisdiction including:

- U.S. Customs and Border Protection
- U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
- Transportation Security Administration
- U.S. Coast Guard
- United States Secret Service
- Federal Emergency Management Agency
- U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

Lucille Roybal-Allard (CA-40) is the incoming Chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Homeland Security. She is from Los Angeles, California and represents the 40th congressional district. The 40th congressional district includes Downey, East Los Angeles, Commerce, Paramount, Bellflower and more. Roybal-Allard has served in the U.S. House of Representatives since 1992. She also ranks as one of the House's foremost supporters of immigration reform, a strong homeland security system, labor unions, veterans, and the rights of women and children.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

There are 39 total members of the U.S. House Budget Committee. The rules of the House require that the Budget Committee's membership be composed of five members from the Committee on Ways and Means, five members from the Committee on Appropriations, and one member from the Committee on Rules. House Majority and Minority Leadership also appoint one member to the Budget Committee. The House Budget Committee duly recognizes the jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means over revenue-raising matters, and the Appropriations Committee's sole jurisdiction over discretionary spending. The Budget Committee's responsibilities are under the following categories: the budget resolution that sets the top-line spend for defense and non-defense programs of the federal government, reconciliation, budget process reform, oversight of the Congressional Budget Office, revisions of allocations and adjustments, and scorekeeping.

John Yarmouth (KY-3) is the incoming Chairman of the U.S. House Budget Committee in the 116th Congress. Yarmouth is in his sixth term representing Kentucky's 3rd congressional district which is made up of the city of Louisville. Yarmouth is considered a moderate Democrat and typically votes along party lines. But, he readily acknowledges that challenges with the U.S. budget are a bipartisan concern that must be addressed. Recently he has doubted the success of any fellow Democrat to replace Nancy Pelosi as Speaker if Democrats control the U.S. House in the 116th Congress.

ENERGY & COMMERCE (E&C) COMMITTEE

The Committee on Energy and Commerce is the oldest continuous standing committee in the U.S. House of Representatives. Today, the Committee has the broadest jurisdiction of any authorizing committee in Congress. It legislates on a wide variety of issues including, telecommunications, consumer protection, food and drug safety, public health research, environmental quality, safe drinking water, energy policy, and interstate and foreign commerce. The Committee also has oversight responsibilities for several government agencies including Food and Drug Administration, Environmental Protection Agency, Federal Trade Commission and Consumer Product Safety Commission.

Frank Pallone, Jr. (NJ-6) is the incoming Chairman of the U.S. House Energy & Commerce Committee in the 116th Congress. Pallone has represented New Jersey's 6th congressional district since 1989. The 6th congressional district covers most of Middlesex County, as well as the Bayshore and oceanfront areas of Monmouth County. He is well-educated with a law degree and a master's degree in international relations and has spent more than 35 years in politics at the local, state and national levels (Long Beach City Council, NJ State Senate, Congress). Pallone was instrumental in crafting the Affordable Care Act in 2011 (aka, Obamacare). More recently, he has co-authored legislation to reform the Toxic Substances Control Act. Observers say as Chairman of E & C he will focus on ways to lower prescription drug prices and may find a huge supporter of this initiative in President Trump.

Energy and Commerce **Subcommittee on Environment**

The subcommittee has jurisdiction over The Clean Air Act, The Safe Drinking Water Act, Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act – including Superfund and the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act, The Solid Waste Disposal Act, The Toxic Substance Control Act and The Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program. Under the Clean Air Act, this subcommittee deals with National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for criteria pollutants; National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) Standards; New Source Performance Standards (NSPS); Mobile Source Standards for vehicles, aircraft, fuels and fuel additives, including the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) and greenhouse gas emissions from motor vehicles. The subcommittee focuses on the regulation of solid, hazardous, and nuclear wastes, including mining, nuclear, oil, gas, and coal combustion waste.

Paul Tonko (NY-20) becomes the next Chairman of the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Environment. He has served New York's 20th congressional district since 2009. The 20th congressional district includes Albany, Schenectady, Troy, Saratoga Springs and Amsterdam. Tonko is known for obtaining cosponsors only from one side of the political aisle. Four of his 9 bills and resolutions introduced last year had both a Democratic and Republican cosponsor. He was successful obtaining support from Committee Ranking Members on those four bills which is a crucial step in the legislative process.

JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

The U.S. House Judiciary Committee maintains jurisdiction over matters relating to the administration of justice in federal courts, administrative bodies, and law enforcement agencies. Any legislation that carries a possibility for criminal or civil penalties can be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, so its legislative workload is substantial and may include Administrative practice and procedure, Apportionment of Representatives, Bankruptcy, mutiny, espionage, and counterfeiting, Constitutional amendments, Criminal law enforcement, Federal courts and judges, Immigration policy and non-border enforcement, Claims against the United

States, Patents, the Patent and Trademark Office, copyrights, and trademarks. Although an infrequent role, the House Judiciary Committee leads in impeachment proceedings.

Jerry Nadler (NY-10) becomes the next Chairman of the U.S. House Judiciary Committee in the U.S. House of Representatives in the 116th Congress. Since 1992 Congressman Nadler has represented New York's 10th Congressional District, one of the most dynamic and diverse districts in the country. The district includes Manhattan's Upper West Side, Morningside Heights, Hell's Kitchen, Chelsea, Greenwich Village, SoHo, Wall Street, and Battery Park City, as well as the Brooklyn neighborhoods of Borough Park, Kensington, and parts of Bay Ridge, Bensonhurst, Dyker Heights, Red Hook, Sunset Park and Midwood. Immigration and citizenship issues are a priority as New York's 10th congressional district includes one of the nation's largest communities of new immigrants.

Judiciary **Subcommittee on Immigration & Border Security**

Zoe Lofgren (CA-19) is the incoming Chairwoman of the Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration & Border Security. She is the highest-ranking Democrat and former chair of the Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security. A former immigration attorney and immigration law professor, Congresswoman Lofgren is recognized as a leader on immigration policy reform in Congress. Lofgren is also the second highest-ranking Democrat on the Committee on Science, Space and Technology. Zoe is the elected Chair of the California Democratic Congressional Delegation (~39 Members).

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

The U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources considers legislation about American energy production, mineral lands and mining, fisheries and wildlife, public lands, oceans, Native Americans, irrigation and reclamation.

Raúl Manuel Grijalva (AZ-3) served 15 years on the Pima County Arizona Board of Supervisors before being elected to Congress in 2002. Arizona's 3rd congressional district extends south of Phoenix and 300 miles along the U.S. Mexico border to the California-Arizona border and includes the Cities of Nogales, Somerton, San Luis and parts of Yuma County. Congressman Grijalva is the incoming Chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee. He also serves on the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and is a Co-Chair of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, as well as a long-standing member of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus.

RULES COMMITTEE

The Committee on Rules in the U.S. House was first formally constituted in 1789. It is commonly referred to as "The Speaker's Committee" because it is the mechanism that the Speaker uses to maintain control of the House Floor. Because of the vast power wielded by the Rules

Committee, its ratio has traditionally been weighted in favor of the majority party by “2- to- 1” (9 majority and 4 minority members) since the late 1970s. The Rules Committee has two broad categories of jurisdiction: 1. special orders (rules) for the consideration of legislation and 2. original jurisdiction matters. A special rule outlines the terms and conditions of debate when a measure comes before the U.S. House. The Committee also considers original jurisdiction measures that represent changes to the standing rules of the House, or measures that contain special rules, such as the expedited procedures in trade legislation.

James McGovern (MA-2) has represented the 2nd congressional district of Massachusetts since 1996. The 2nd congressional district extends from Worcester, north to Leominster and east to Northampton. In 2001, McGovern was appointed to serve on the powerful House Rules Committee. A staunch ally of Nancy Pelosi, McGovern is the incoming Chairman of the Rules Committee.

WAYS & MEANS

The U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Ways and Means derives its jurisdiction from Article I, Section VII of the U.S. Constitution declaring, “All Bills for raising Revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives.” The Committee was first established in 1789 and remains one of the oldest Standing Committees in Congress. The Committee’s jurisdiction includes all matters of revenue and related issues such as tariffs, reciprocal trade agreements, and the bonded debt of the United States. Revenue-related aspects of the Social Security system, Medicare, and social services programs are also under the jurisdiction of the Ways and Means Committee.

Richard Neal was elected to represent Massachusetts 1st congressional district in 1988. The 1st congressional district is the most rural district of Massachusetts and includes the Cities of Springfield, Pittsfield, Holyoke and Westfield. Congressman Neal is the incoming Chairman of the U.S. House Committee on Ways and Means during the 116th Congress. He has been a lead sponsor of legislation to prevent American companies from moving offshore to avoid paying U.S. taxes. He has also sponsored legislation that would increase the national savings rate by encouraging the use of individual retirement accounts and has worked to make health care and tuition expenses tax deductible. He successfully led efforts to eliminate the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT). Congressman Neal is an At-Large Whip for the House Democrat Leadership and is a co-chairman of the New England Congressional Caucus.

Subcommittee on Tax Policy

The jurisdiction of the Subcommittee on Tax Policy consists of revenue measures that, from time to time, are referred to it specifically by the Chairman of the full Ways and Means Committee.

Lloyd Doggett has served in the U.S. House since first being elected in 1994. He was recently re-elected to serve a 13th term for the 35th congressional district of Texas which spans from San Antonio to Austin. Dogget also becomes Chairman of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Tax Policy.

Subcommittee on Trade

The jurisdiction of the Subcommittee on Trade includes issues relating to customs and customs administration including tariff and import fee structure, classification, valuation of and special rules applying to imports, and special tariff provisions and procedures which relate to customs operation affecting exports and imports; import trade matters, including import impact, industry relief from injurious imports, adjustment assistance and programs to encourage competitive responses to imports, unfair import practices including antidumping and countervailing duty provisions, and import policy which relates to dependence on foreign sources of supply; commodity agreements and reciprocal trade agreements involving multilateral and bilateral trade negotiations and implementation of agreements involving tariff and non-tariff trade barriers to and distortions of international trade; international rules, organizations and institutional aspects of international trade agreements; budget authorizations for the customs revenue functions of the Department of Homeland Security, the U.S. International Trade Commission, and the U.S. Trade Representative; and special trade-related problems involving market access, competitive conditions of specific industries, export policy and promotion, access to materials in short supply, bilateral trade relations including trade with developing countries, operations of multinational corporations, and trade with non-market economies.

Bill Pascrell was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1996. He represents New Jersey's 9th congressional district including the Cities of Englewood, Lyndhurst, Passaic and Paterson. he has served on the House Ways and Means Committee since 2007. He served as Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Trade in the 115th Congress. Incoming Chairman Pascrell's Subcommittee on Trade will be responsible for the party's policy positions on the new U.S.-Mexico-Canada (USMCA) trade agreement. Labor issues in the negotiated deal will likely be a concern for Democrats. Since the Trump Administration is taking a different policy approach to U.S. trade and attempting to achieve multiple, bilateral trade pacts Congressman Pascrell will be maintaining a watchful eye and likely conducting multiple oversight hearings to learn intricate details of the Administration's negotiations. Labor concerns will also likely be an issue for Democrats in the negotiated USMCA.